



N.O.W. News

Vol. 38 No. 4 Winter 2000



Season's Greetings

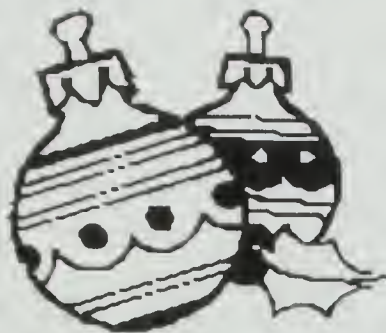
Numismatists of Wisconsin

is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock, non-profit tax exempt corporation.

Your contributions to NOW are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives.

Dues are \$5 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.



Winter 2000

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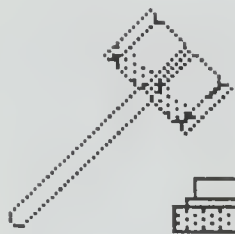
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Deadline

News for the next issue should be sent to the Editor by February 1st.



President's Message

by Bill Brandimore

Early in November we just had our first real frost of the season....awfully late for us in Wausau!

Your Board of Directors met at the Green Bay Show on Sunday, October 22. We enjoyed a nice ride over to Green Bay on a pleasant day. It was a well attended and well stocked coin show with what appeared to be "something for everyone" as there seemed to be a wide range of merchandise available in all grades and degrees of difficulty.

We're in good shape, financially, in large part due to the efforts of Secretary/Treasurer Ron Calkins. His dedicated efforts to secure Tax Exempt status paid off and we did some "housekeeping" with Article II of our Constitution to reflect our tax-free status. The change will be published in our newsletter which emphasizes our dedication to charitable, educational and scientific pursuits, in addition to our prior objectives of building friendships and good will among collectors and clubs. We will certainly continue to do that, but not as the thrust behind our Article II definition of Purpose. This change, in keeping with our procedures was voted into effect after preparatory action at prior Board meetings. In recapping, a lot of work by Ron and a lot of benefit to the entire membership.

We'll be holding two formal Board meetings a year for the rest of my term. One at the Annual NOW Show and one in the fall, at a

non-show venue, probably a restaurant meeting in a central location... somewhere around Fond du Lac would make sense. The Executive Committee of the Board (all Board Members are included) will meet at least twice more during the year at shows around the state to assure thorough discussion on topics of interest to the membership before formal adoption or rejection at one of the formal Board meetings. All members of NOW are welcome to attend Board meetings and watch our Directors in action.

We are trying this to encourage higher attendance at the formal Board meetings, but still allow lots of discussion to take place at meetings throughout the year. This will accommodate members traveling a far distance or dealer Board members who make a considerable sacrifice to attend lengthy Board meetings at shows where they must leave their tables unattended.

The next Executive Board Meeting will be at the Oshkosh show February 18, 2001. Baraboo canceled their show so we are in need of a club to sponsor the 2001 NOW spring show. Possible interested clubs include Sheboygan, Wausau or Green Bay. More later.

We continue to press forward with our plans for a WEB-site and this will be a major topic of discussion at Oshkosh. This is the information age and we want to LOG ON! Also, we can take pride in the fact that NOW is now an official Life Member of the ANA. This shows our support for the ANA and we got considerable credit for annual dues paid over the last 20 years. Thanks to Patty Finner for her assistance in this effort.

That's all for now.... enjoy your collecting. I hope to see you at a coin show near you!



Secretary's Musings

by Ron Calkins

Start Your Christmas List...

Include on your Christmas "Wish List" a lot of nice numismatic items... maybe one of our advertisers has just what you want. Give them a call. Speaking of ads, why not check the ad rates listed in this issue and send us your **ad** or **renewal**... and thanks to those members who have supported us during this past year.

Coin Club/Show Information

A Coin Club Information form and Show Information form is included in this issue. We hope one of your club officers will complete these forms and return them to us as soon as possible. At your next meeting, ask if these forms were returned to NOW.

2001 NOW Show Plans Change

Due to the recent reorganization of the Baraboo Coin Club, their new officers have regretfully withdrawn their invitation to host the Numismatists of Wisconsin 2001 annual spring show. NOW thanks members of the Baraboo Coin Club for their consideration and we look forward to working with them in the future.

Coin Orders from the Canadian Mint now require your Social Security number. This scares me. We suggest you buy your Canadian coins from a secondary source in the U.S. This preserves your Social Security number and supports a local dealer. (See story on page 9).

Board Meeting Highlights --

- We now hold life membership in the American Numismatic Association.
- The 2001 NOW Show will not be hosted by the Baraboo Coin Club. Other considerations are pending.
- The 3 members who accepted nominations for the Board were approved, with President Brandimore making an appointment for the 4th Board position.
- Kevin Doyle will be working on our website.
- The Wisconsin State Quarters Program was discussed. President Brandimore has already submitted a letter to the Governor indicating NOW would like to be involved in the quarter selection process.
- The next Executive Board meeting will be held in Oshkosh on February 18th. Another meeting may be necessary in the spring prior to our show.
- Board members who are unable to attend a Board Meeting will the contact President or Secretary in **advance**.

Donations Are Now Tax Deductible

The Federal IRS has given us a 501c(3) tax status. Please keep in mind that your donations (not dues) are now tax deductible.

Thanks to Bill Brandimore, Gene Johnson, Tom Casper and Rollie Finner for contributing information to this newsletter.



Coin Club News

Baraboo Elects New Officers

The Baraboo Coin Club has recently reorganized and their newly elected officers are pictured below.



Front Row (l-r)) are Tim Quinn, Secretary, Tom Shelton, Vice President, Jeff Acton, outgoing President, Rick Kaja, President, Second row: (l-r) Mike Rothe, Show Chair; Jerry Powers, Treasurer, Patti Finner, Director. (Photo by Rollie Finner).

Madison Coin Club

At the October meeting members saw a demonstration on how to determine if plastic coin or currency holders contain PVC. Kevin Doyle and Tom Galway gave possible solutions for combating the "dreaded green slime" that can destroy your collection. Their Christmas Party was held December 11th at the Old Country Buffet. After a delicious dinner, a short meeting was held to elect officers for the new year.

Wausau Coin Club

The annual banquet of the Wisconsin Valley Coin Club of Wausau was held November 11th at the Stage Stop Restaurant in Mosinee. President Thad Streeter welcomed 26 members and guests.

A sumptuous "all-you-can-eat" meal of roast beef, Hawaiian ham and oven-baked chicken with all the fixings was topped off by 3 flavors of specialty pie.

Charter member, Gene Johnson, donated a 36-page club history booklet to each member family. The booklet, a millennium numismatic project by Johnson, is entitled "*Historical Numismatics Wisconsin/ the Wisconsin Valley Coin Club/ 1955-2000.*" The photo and text booklet has a capsule history by year, a list of all club officers past and present, and membership names and numbers. Following dinner, door prizes were distributed to all present, but the banquet program had to be scratched when speaker Bill Brandimore was called away on emergency business.

The Wisconsin Valley Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Health Care Center on Lake Shore Drive.



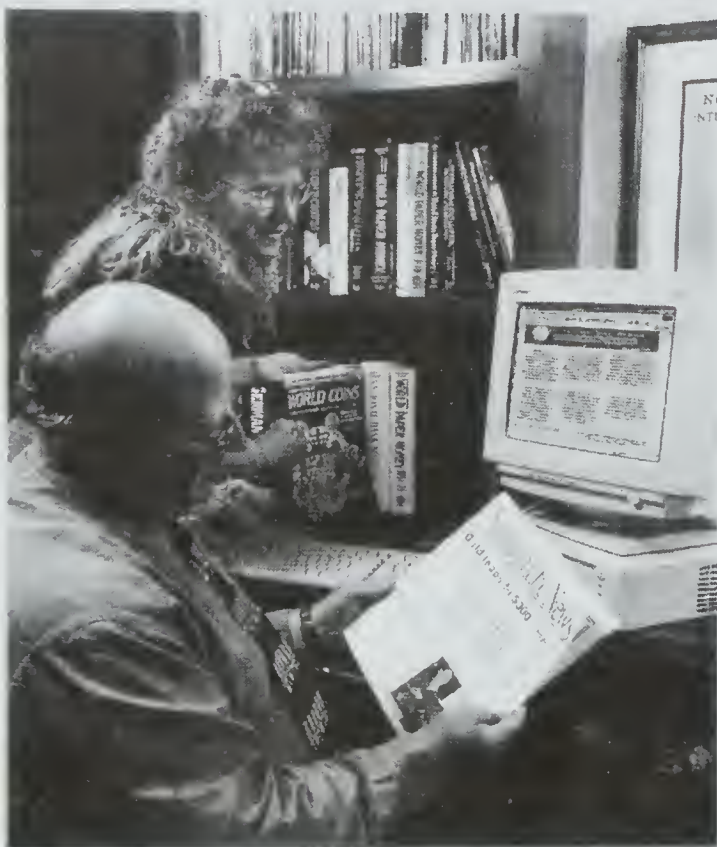
Jim Hannifan

Jim Hannifan, of Portage died

September 15th at 81 years of age. He was a railroad man by profession and developed severe health problems after his retirement. He was a former NOW member, long-time coin collector and was one of the very early token collectors in Wisconsin. Jim was a prolific story teller and over the years shared some of his many numismatic tales in the pages of NOW News

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Remember When ...

by Phyllis Calkins #250



How many of you remember the "Billie the Brownie" radio program or were a member of the Billie the Brownie Committee?

In 1927, Schusters Department Store in Milwaukee created a holiday newspaper column by Billie the Brownie. Billie moved to WTMJ radio in 1931 and for 24 years brought the magic of Christmas alive to thousands of area children. The program ended in 1955.

As a child growing up in the 1930s and 1940s, Billie and his Friends helped generate many fond memories. Christmas wasn't as commercialized as it is today. Local stores stayed open evenings only a week or two before Christmas and Santa came to town once in early December and gave candy canes to the long line of kids waiting outside the municipal building. I imagine Billie's radio program came on a couple of weeks before Christmas also.

Each evening (Monday thru Friday) I anxiously waited for 5:00 to come... and was glued next to the radio so I wouldn't miss anything. Each 15-minute program began and ended with "Jingle Bells." It featured Billie and his friends, Larry, Me-Tik the Eskimo and Willie Wagtail, the dog, and of course, Santa.

Larry always read letters from children who had visited Schuster's Toyland. Not surprising in those days, most boys asked for toy guns, cars, gas stations and footballs. Dolls were on most of the girls' wish list. Larry & Billie kept children entertained with stories and poems and they always chatted with Santa about Christmas preparations before the program ended.

In the early programs that I remember, Santa was contacted toward the end of each program via a special short-wave radio to the North Pole. In later programs, Santa joined Billie from his Schusters Store headquarters.

The Christmas Eve program was especially exciting as Santa finished packing his sleigh and left with his reindeer on his trip delivering toys to good girls and boys all over the world.



The Billie the Brownie pinbacks shown here were available to all who wished to become a member of the Billie the Brownie Committee.

Billie the Brownie Committee pinbacks
Schusters Toyland in
Milwaukee





1999 Writer's Awards



My husband recalls one night they turned on the radio after 5:15 and at that time 5-year old Ron discovered the radio didn't catch and hold Billie's program. He also recalls his mother was fixing supper shortly before Christmas in 1938. Dad came home from work on crutches... he had fallen and broken his leg. Christmas hopes and dreams diminished quickly for the family... but on Christmas morning Ron and his sister came down stairs and he excitedly shouted "He Came! He came!" -- the tree was lit and Santa had left a mountainous pile of gifts (or so it seemed).

The Milwaukee County Historical Society has a "Billie Corner" in their Christmas exhibit which opened December 1st. For the first time, they have four 15-minute programs of Billie available on audio cassette. They also have produced a new Billie the Brownie button using an original design.

Schuster's Department Store no longer exists, however, Billie and his friends will always exist for me at Christmas time.



Thanks to Tom Casper, of Milwaukee, for supplying pictures of the pinbacks shown in this article and on the cover.

Each year the stories published in NOW News are reviewed and cash awards are given to the top 3 winners as determined by the coin clubs who donate the prizes. The best articles published in 1999 have been determined:

First place was awarded to Gene Johnson for "Slaves, Slavers & Slavery Exonumia."

Second place was for "Canceled Checks Had Second Life as Insulation" by Bill Brandimore.

And third place award was presented to Leon Saryan for his article on "Classical Ancient Armenian Rarity Offered at Auction."

We appreciate the generosity of the coin clubs for their generous donations; which encourages and helps develop numismatic journalistic talents among our members. The South Shore Coin Club donated \$100 to the 1st place winner; the \$50 2nd place award was donated by the Oshkosh Numismatic Research Society and the Milwaukee Numismatic Society gave \$25 to the 3rd place winner.

If you have written an article relating to coin collecting, why not send it to the Editor for possible inclusion in a future issue of NOW News. Anyone may submit an article, however, you must be a member of NOW to be eligible for the cash awards.



The Bureau of Engraving & Printing has 12 souvenir cards for sale reflecting engravings of events or individuals that had a significant effect on the U.S. during the 1900s.

The price of these cards is \$5 and they will remain on sale until December 31, 2000 or as long as supplies last. Call 800-456-3408 or <http://www.moneyfactory.com>.



British Royal Mint

The 2000 Britannia Gold Proofs, struck by the British Royal Mint, offers collectors an opportunity to own this outstanding coin.

Introduced in 1987, the Britannia has become a popular gold bullion coin around the world. The frosted Proof has been awarded the title "Coin of the Year" by an international panel of judges.

The obverse bears a portrait of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, with the legal tender value of each coin stated at the base. Struck in 22 karat gold, the Britannia is issued in 4 denominations. For inquiries call 1-800-221-1215.

Discovering the Origin of Gold Coins

The Gold Institute

Scientists at the British Museum in London have come up with a novel explanation for inscriptions on the world's earliest known coins, which were minted in Lydia, Turkey, more than 2600 years ago. They argue that the stamp on the small coins was like a modern day refiner's 'good delivery' mark, a guarantee of their gold or silver content.

Until about 620 B.C.E., non-barter commercial transactions were made using weighed quantities of scrap gold or silver. However, in the rivers of Asia Minor (now Turkey) large amounts of electrum, a very pale yellow natural alloy of gold with 20-50 percent silver, were found, but the gold/silver content varied.

The British Museum researchers, led by metallurgist Paul Craddock, believe that the invention of 'coins' with clear stamps on them overcame this problem. Craftsmen simply added extra silver to achieve a consistent balance of 55 percent gold and 45 percent silver. Then they put the guaranteeing stamp, or "chop" on each small ingot -- creating the first coins of a clearly defined value.

A gold refinery was also set up in Sardis, the capital of Lydia, where goldsmiths worked at improving coin quality. They mixed natural electrum dust and salt in a clay pot, then heated the mixture to around 750 Centigrade (1,590° F). Iron minerals from the clay pot reacted with the salt to produce ferric chloride and chlorine gases, which reacted with the silver in the electrum to form gaseous silver chloride. In

5 days, all the silver could be extracted from 5 kilos (161 oz) leaving pure gold.

Craddock told *The Independent* newspaper in London, "It's taken 10 years to disentangle the complex story of the origins of coinage. Using modern scanning electron microscopes and X-ray spectrometry equipment, we have been able for the first time to appreciate fully the genius of the metal workers of the ancient world."

Important Notice to Collectors from the Royal Canadian Mint

If you occasionally purchase items from the Royal Canadian Mint, the following notice from the Mint will affect you in the future.

*"Effective immediately, the Royal Canadian Mint is required by the Department of the Treasury, U.S. Customs Service, to include your Internal Revenue Service Number (IRS) or Social Security Number (SSN) on our customs documentation. This information will be recorded in the U.S. Customs Service computer system **for customs purposes only**. To this effect, a box has been added to the Order Form for you to indicate the appropriate number. If you have questions regarding Customs Regulations, you may contact the U.S. Customs Service at (518) 298-8334 or visit their website at www.customs.ustreas.gov."*

The Royal Canadian Mint wants to assure its customers that they do not rent or sell its customer list to any other company, organization or association.

But we wonder what happens when you SELL the coins... and does this preclude future action on U.S. Coin sales?



King Leads Coin Collector List

Associated Press

Coin collectors around the country would like to have Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Ronald Reagan and Harry Truman in their pockets.

The civil rights leader and the 2 former presidents were the top vote-getters in a national survey recently conducted by the Littleton Coin Company of Littleton, NH. A questionnaire was posted on the internet and sent to Littleton Coin Company customers.

Nearly 2,000 collectors responded. Suggestions included Jesus Christ, 33 Presidents, astronauts, actors, baseball players, pioneers and Elvis.

David Sundman, President of Littleton Coin Company, stated that "Even though Abe Lincoln was a great guy, the design on the penny is coming up on a century in a few years."

In a similar survey conducted 5 years ago, the top 3 choices were the same -- but in a different order: Reagan, Truman and King. Sundman will send the results to the Senate Banking Committee, which oversees coin designs.

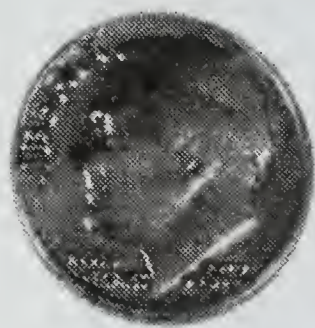
Submitted by Gene Johnson



Silver Ain't Just For Coins

Silver Institute

More than 38,000 prostate cancer patients will be treated this year using prostate seed



implants in which silver is a crucial element, according to Nycomed Amersham

Imaging, a Princeton NJ company that makes a brand of the cancer fighting seeds.

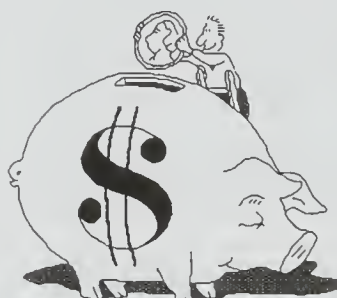
Prostate seed implant therapy is a nonsurgical outpatient procedure in which radioactive seeds are implanted within the prostate, where they irradiate the tumor. The company's product, dubbed OncoSeed, is a tiny pellet about the size of a rice grain, consisting of a titanium capsule containing silver wire absorbed with radioactive iodine. The seeds irradiate the tumor from within and usually have a minimal effect on neighboring organs such as the rectum or bladder. Silver wire makes an ideal material because it adsorbs the radioactive iodine well, is not harmful to tissue and the metal's high density gives strong images when seen on medical imaging equipment.

Prostate seed implant therapy has been demonstrated to have a survival rate comparable to surgery but without the invasiveness. Within days following the procedure, most patients are back to their everyday activities.

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer in men. According to the National Cancer Institute, more than 180,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in

2000, and nearly 32,000 men will die of the disease. An estimated 8 out of 10 men diagnosed with prostate cancer are over 65 and by age 75, approximately 50% of American men will have cancerous changes in the prostate. To call attention to prostate cancer, Nycomed Amersham Imaging has begun a nationwide educational campaign about prostate cancer, offering a booklet and video. More information can be obtained at their website www.oncoseed.com. Nycomed Amersham Imaging is part of Nycomed Amersham plc., Buckinghamshire, UK.

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Sites for Piggy Bankers

Managing money can be a difficult task for adults to master and for kids, it can be a total mystery. Spending is easy, but saving is quite difficult when you're young. A week feels like forever when your allowance tops out at \$10 a month.

For older kids and teens, there's also the issue of earning that elusive extra cash. Luckily, many websites teach basic money skills, provide age-appropriate job ideas and even supply information about investing or running a small business. Check out some of these sites:

FleetKids	www.fleetkids.com
Kids' Money	www.kidsmoney.org
Money Cents	www.kidsmoneycents.com
Strongkids.com	www.strongkids.com
Young Investor	www.younginvestor.com



New Series \$5 Banknote

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing has developed a number of innovative collectible products based on the New Series 1999 \$5 banknote which was first issued on May 24, 2000.

\$5 Premium Historical Portfolio

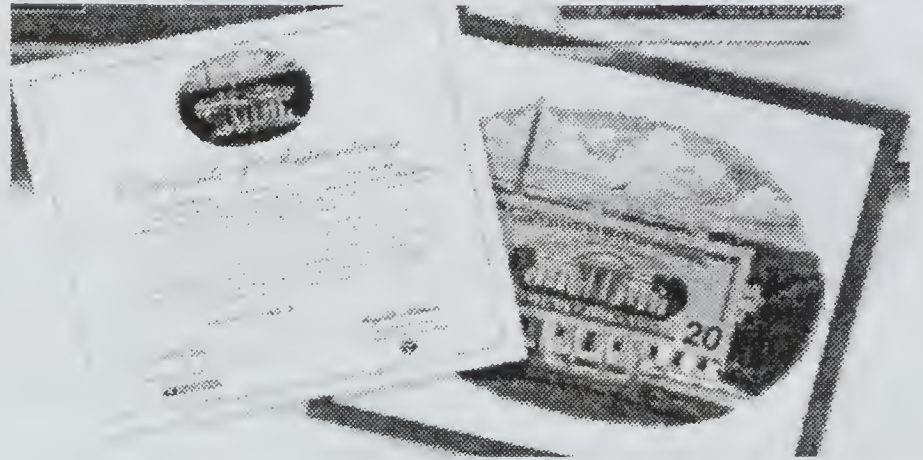
The portfolio contains a new 1999 Series \$5 note with a low serial number and one of the last previous design series 1995 \$5 notes.

The portfolio contains 2-notes in protective acid-free polymer sleeves and includes a certificate of authenticity with the signatures of the U.S. Treasurer and Director of the Bureau of Engraving. The portfolio sells for \$49.95.

The \$5 Premium Federal Reserve Set sells for \$515 and contains a new 1999 series \$5 from each of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks with matched serial numbers. The set is bound into a 24-page book and each note is protected with acid-free polymer sleeves. To order, phone 1-800-456-3408 or FAX 1-888-891-7585 or visit their website at www.moneyfactory.com.



Give Yourself an Early Christmas Present for the White House's 200th Birthday



On November 1, 1800 the newly constructed White House became home to its first president, John Adams. On November 1, 2000, the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Treasury offered collectors an opportunity to own this unique portfolio honoring that historic event.

This special issue includes 20 White House commemorative postage stamps and a \$20 currency note with special anniversary serial numbering. Each will be placed in a handsome gold-blocked package with archive-quality protection encasing the stamps and currency. A certificate of authenticity with matching currency note serial number will add to the issue's distinctiveness. Worldwide distribution is limited to just 30,000 portfolios.

This Anniversary portfolio can be purchased for \$198 (item #1066). Call 1-800-456-3408 or visit their website at www.moneyfactory.com.

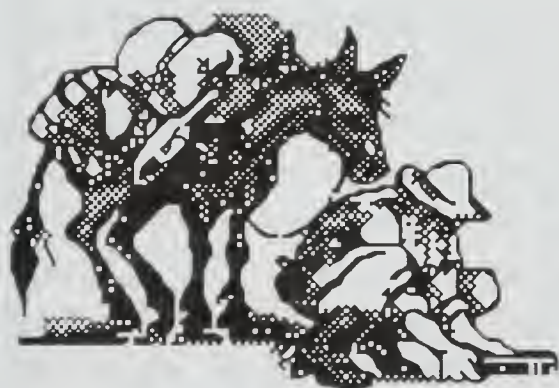
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Tourists Rush to the Site of America's First Gold Rush

The Gold Institute

The town of Dahlonega, Georgia, about 90 minutes north of Atlanta, is the site of America's first gold rush in 1832, more than a decade before the California Gold Rush. While gold is no longer mined here, the town is playing host to a rush of tourists eager to learn about the history of mining and even try their hand at panning for gold.

The name Dahlonega means "*precious yellow metal*" in the Cherokee language and the town is located on the top of the largest gold deposits found east of the Mississippi River. In 1958, the citizens of Dahlonega presented the state with gold which was formed into thin sheets and attached to the top of the State House in Atlanta.



Tourists have several choices to learn about the city's gold mining story.

First, the Consolidated Gold Mines and gold processing mill, built in the early 1900's, was the largest gold mining operation in the east. All that remains of the mine are deep tunnels in which some gold bearing rock still exists. (All the gold that can be economically mined has been extracted.)

Visitors can travel through the mazes and see demonstrations of how gold was mined using actual equipment. Walking tours go as deep as 175 feet below ground. Tourists can also pan for gold in a trough after being given pointers by gold panning experts.

The other mine is Crisson's Gold Mine which was opened in 1847. Visitors can tour the 117 year-old stamp mill -- the only original working mill in Georgia. They can also hone their panning skills after a quick demonstration of the proper technique.

Rounding out the gold tour is the Gold Museum, located in a former courthouse. The museum tells the story of gold's impact on the town. In fact, the discovery of gold was so important that the U.S. government established a branch mint that operated from 1838 to 1861 and coined more than \$6 million in gold. Gold coins minted in Dahlonega and nuggets -- one weighing more than 5 ounces -- are on display. More than a million coins were minted and are coveted by contemporary collectors. A 23-minute film describes the mining techniques and lifestyles of the prospectors through interviews with members of the long-time mining families in the area.

Dahlonega is the site of the World Championship Gold Panning Competition held in April and the town also holds its Gold Rush Days celebration in October.

* * * * *

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for your collection**

www.wsrarities.com

Two exciting features distinguish this site: a searchable online price guide for U.S. coins and free space to post your coin portfolio. Register to get started. The site will help you determine the value of each coin and your entire collection, and keep it updated. The rare-coin shop is the site's bread and butter.

Numismatic Research Society

18th Annual Coin Show
Sunday, February 18, 2001
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Park Plaza International

(Formerly Oshkosh Hilton)
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Free Admission

Free Door Prizes

(From Hwy. US 41, take 9th Avenue Oshkosh Exit East.
Follow 9th Avenue to South Main Street, turn left (North),
cross the Fox River and Park Plaza International is on the left).

1799 Toll Road Tickets Doubled as Currency

by Bill Brandimore #1638

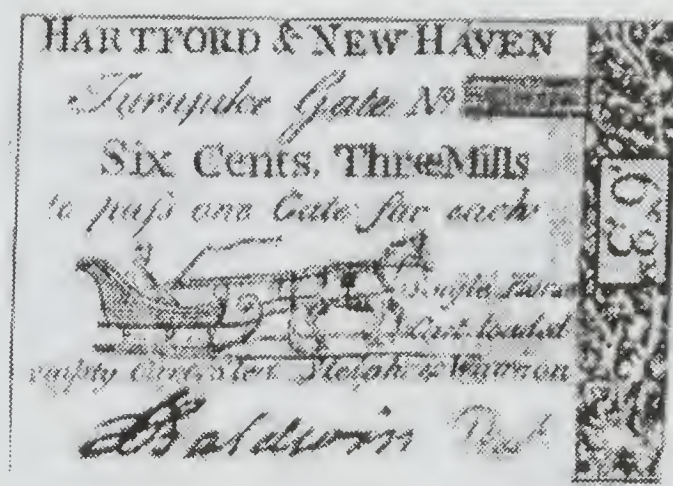
This story is about an item that was not really money, but circulated as such. In 1799 The Hartford and New Haven Turnpike Company issued what appeared to be notes, but were actually toll tickets. They were printed in sheets of 6, with different prices for different users.

The ticket illustrated features a horse and sleigh. The ticket would pass a horse and sleigh, or several comparable combinations, through one gate on the toll road for a fee of 6 cents and 3 mills. Because of this basic worth or value, the notes also circulated as small change, as previously mentioned, in Connecticut in 1799.

The Hartford and New Haven Turnpike is now U.S. 91. Today we don't use such attractive toll tickets, but they are a great reminder of our past. Adding color to these items are the 6 different varieties that were printed, each featuring a picture of the item to be passed and ranging from large coach and fours, to sheep, cattle and horses.

While the ticket illustrated does not depict Santa Clause, it does seem to fit in rather well with the holiday season.

There are 2 presidents who signed these notes -- first President James Hillhouse and the second, as shown on this note, a Mr. Baldwin. The notes signed by Hillhouse are generally printed in blue and signed in red. The illustrated note is printed and signed in black. Another interesting point about this issue is its illustration of the development of our dollar along a decimal path, as opposed to the coins in pounds and pence system in

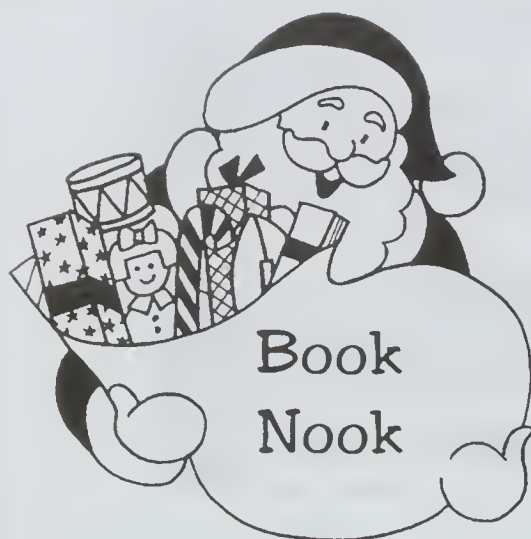


use before the Revolution. A pound equaled 20 shillings. A shilling equaled 12 pence. The dominant coin in circulation, however, from the Revolutionary period until 1852 was the Spanish-milled dollar. It was a silver dollar-like coin that was divided into eight "bits" of 12 1/2 cents value each. For a time, paper currency was issued by various private concerns with values of 6 1/2 cents (half of a bit) or 12 1/2 cents (one bit). This 6-cent, 3 mills note attempted to decimalize the process and came as close to 6 1/5 cents as possible -- 6.3 cents.

Eventually the decimal system prevailed, but mills were not necessary with the minting of enough half-cents to make change. It sounds strange that so much could depend on just pennies; but the half cent was worth about 75 cents at today's rates. That means that the quaint 6-cent 3 mills toll ticket would cost approximately \$9.75 today. If you've traveled some of the New England toll roads, I think you'll find that isn't too far from present rates.

The U.S. government eventually went with coins based on dollar fractions when their new mint at Philadelphia got up and running, thus the dime edged out the bit, but the quarter is frequently called, even to this day "two bits."

* * * * *



Gold Booklet Offered by U.S. Geological Survey

Gold Institute
News

The U.S. Geological Survey is offering a booklet on the history of gold mining from ancient civilizations to today. The 23-page "Gold" explains the changing ways that people have mined gold from finding gold particles along river beds to deep, below ground mining. Through pictures and text, it also shows how gold is formed in the earth and in what types of geologic formations gold is most often found. The booklet also discusses refining methods, assaying techniques, industrial applications, demand trends and how geologists are increasing their knowledge of the natural processes that produce gold. For information, contact U.S. Geological Survey, Information Services, PO Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225. Their website is www.usgs.gov.

* * * * *

How to Grade Your Coins Online

Do you know what a Roman finish is or the Sheldon scale? Check out the full online version of the book "How to Grade U.S. Coins," along with photo illustrations. The author, a professional numismatist, takes you through the complex grading process step-by-step. Check it out at coingrading.com.

Handbook Offered by Heritage

Heritage Numismatic Auctions has just published a very useful book for coin collectors -- "*The Rare Coin Estate Handbook*." This guide advises collectors and their heirs on how to maximize profits and minimize estate headaches when selling or auctioning collections. The Handbook provides both background rationale and action instructions for protecting the value of the estate in encounters with the IRS, other coin collectors and coin dealers. While the book provides much detail aimed at current collectors on how to avoid estate problems in the first place. It also advises heirs directly if the collector has failed to follow the sound advice included in this "how to" manual.

To get a free copy, give them your e-mail address (and they promise not to spam you). call 1-800-872-6467 or write Heritage Numismatic Auctions, Inc., 100 Highland Park Village, 2nd Floor, Dallas, TX 75205-2788.

Krause Publications Offers Collectors New Publications

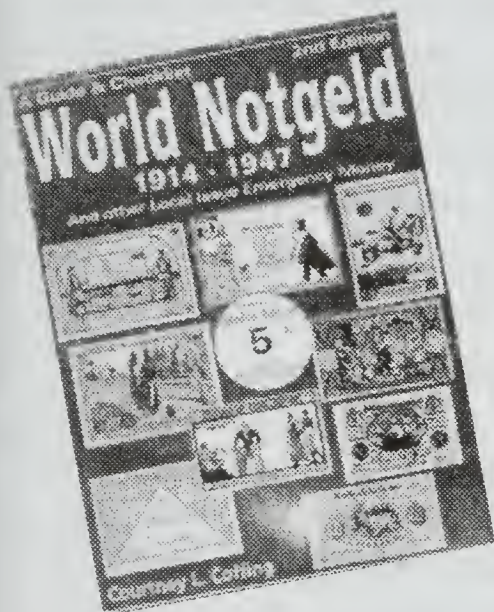


State Quarter Collector

More than 106 million Americans are collecting the new coins

issued as part of the 50 States Quarter Program, making them the hottest and most accessible collectible items around.

This fun-filled 64-page book is designed for readers to learn about the 50 states while they collect the new quarters. Convenient slots allow display of quarter collections. The first 2 volumes of the series are now available for \$9.95 each (plus s/h). It's a great way to learn about the coins and all that goes into selecting the designs.



A Guide & Checklist of World Notgeld 1914 - 1947

The largest collection of photographed *notgeld* (emergency money issued during wartime

and other crises) in a world-wide reference is available from Krause Publications. This 400-page book provides more than 1,400 black & white photos to assist with identification.

The first emergency money appeared in Germany on July 31, 1914. Over the years, municipalities, retailers, colonies and private firms issued notgeld. As a collector market developed, the number of issues increased. The volume encompasses the emergency money issued by 80 countries. More than 13,000 alphabetical entries offer a checklist of issuing authorities arranged both by city and country.

The book is priced at \$29.95 and is available from Krause Publications.

2001 North American Coins & Prices

The new dollar and 50 new quarters have sparked renewed interest in coin collecting. For current pricing on the coins of North America, "2001 North American Coins & Prices" is a comprehensive reference for all federal coins issues of the U.S., Canada and Mexico in chronological and denominational order. More than 45,000 up-to-date prices in 11 grades of condition are contained in the book's 584 pages. Price: \$17.95 from Krause Publications.



Standard Catalog of World Paper Money

This completely revised and updated edition of *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Vol. II, General Issues* clearly identifies, describes and applies market values to world paper money from 1368 to 1960 released by more than 230 note-issuing authorities. This book is also available from Krause Publications for \$65 plus shipping and handling.

To order any of the publications from Krause Publications, call 800-258-0929 or order online at www.krause.com and click on "books."



South Carolina

The South Carolina quarter, the 8th coin under the 50 State Quarters Program, shows a Palmetto Tree, the Carolina Wren, and Yellow Jessamine. An outline of South Carolina, nicknamed the "Palmetto State" and a star indicating the capital, Columbia, form the quarter's back.

The Carolina Wren is the state bird and the yellow Jessamine, the state flower, are native throughout the state. The importance of the Palmetto Tree dates back to the Revolutionary War. In 1776 Colonists in a small fort built of Palmetto logs successfully defeated a British fleet trying to enter Charleston Harbor. Since then, South Carolina is called "The Palmetto State".



The quarter's reverse is an outline of the state complimented by an intriguing group of state symbols.



Virginia

The Virginia quarter, the 10th coin released under the Program honors Jamestown, VA, our nation's first permanent English settlement. Jamestown turns 400 years old in 2007. The selected design features the 3 ships, Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery. These ships brought the first English settlers to Jamestown.

On April 10, 1606, King James I of England chartered the Virginia Company to encourage colonization in the New World. The first expedition, consisting of the 3 ships depicted on the quarter, embarked from London on December 20, 1606. On May 12, 1607 they landed on a small island along the James River, nearly 60 miles from the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. It was here the original settlers (104 men and boys) established the first permanent English settlement called Jamestown, in honor of King James I.



New Hampshire

The New Hampshire quarter is the 9th coin released under the State Quarters Program and honors one of the state's most unique natural attractions, "The Old Man of the Mountain". The state motto, "Live free or die" and nine stars, signifying the fact that NH was the 9th state to ratify the Constitution, complete the design.

The Old Man of the Mountain is a rock formation that can be found on Mt. Cannon in the Franconia notch gateway to Northern NH. From the right view, this unique rock formation, comprised of 5 layers of Conway red granite, depicts the distinct profile of an elderly man gazing eastward. Geographers believe that the layers of granite were formed by melting and slipping away action of an ice sheet that covered the Franconia Mountains at the end of the glacial period -- some 2,000 to 10,000 years ago. Today the formation, measuring over 40 feet high with a lateral distance of 25 feet, is held in place by cables and turnbuckles to prevent further slipping and possible destruction.



50 State Quarter Spoons

Another Unique Gift Idea ...

50-state Quarters spoons are available from the U.S. Mint, along with many other gifts. Check out their website at www.usmint.gov.



Dues are Due

Please check your mailing label to see if you need to renew your NOW dues for 2001.

Because of postal bulk mailing weight regulations, **everyone** receives a renewal notice (even Life Members and those who have already paid).

We do not automatically send new cards, however, if you would like a new one, please let us know.

Prompt payment of your dues will save postage costs of another mailing.





CRACKER JACK PRESIDENTIAL TOKENS

by Tom Casper #982

There is scarcely a child who doesn't immediately identify the picture of the sailor boy and his dog with a box of Cracker Jack. The

free prize it contains has delighted children for years and has made it a favorite snack food.

It all began in 1872 when F.W Rueckheim, a German immigrant who had saved \$200 by working on a farm near Chicago, came into the city to help clean up debris from the great fire of 1871. He went into the popcorn business with a partner who had a small one-popper stand at 113 Federal Street (then called Fourth Avenue).

In 1873 Rueckheim bought out his partner, brought his brother Louis from Germany, and F.W. Rueckheim & Bro. was founded. Two years later the brothers had purchased candy-making equipment from a Dutch confectioner who was returning to Holland, and added marshmallows and other confections to their thriving popcorn specialties business.

Between 1875 and 1884 the brothers moved the firm 5 times, doubling and quadrupling their manufacturing space as demand increased. By 1884 they had a 3-story brick factory at 266 South Clinton Street. Within 6 months of the factory's destruction by fire in 1887, they had rebuilt and were

doing business as usual, expanding again as demand for their honestly made wholesome confections increased.

At the Chicago World Columbian Exposition in 1893, people from all over the world were treated to a unique confection made of popcorn, peanuts and molasses. It was there that Cracker Jack's forerunner received international acclaim.

Between the years 1894 and 1914 the demand for that confection continually increased. The brothers moved into a new plant at 261 S. Des Plaines Street, and their orders continued to outstrip production.

The product was shipped in wooden tubs, and one problem was that the candy-coated kernels stuck together. In 1896 Louis Rueckheim further perfected his process and his brother heard a salesman say, upon tasting it, "That's a cracker jack". "So it is," said F.W. Rueckheim, and had the name trademarked, along with a slogan passed on by a customer who said, "The more you eat, the more you want".

In 1903 the Rueckheims took in another partner and became known as Rueckheim Bros. and Eckstein. E.G. Eckstein was a packaging expert who developed a wax sealed package in 1899. A new moisture proof package was introduced 3 years later, and in 1907 a new plant was opened at Harrison & Peoria Streets.

Between 1910 and 1913, Cracker Jack boxes carried coupons which could be redeemed for premiums. Prizes were packed with Cracker Jack beginning in 1912 and were so popular that the coupons were discontinued.

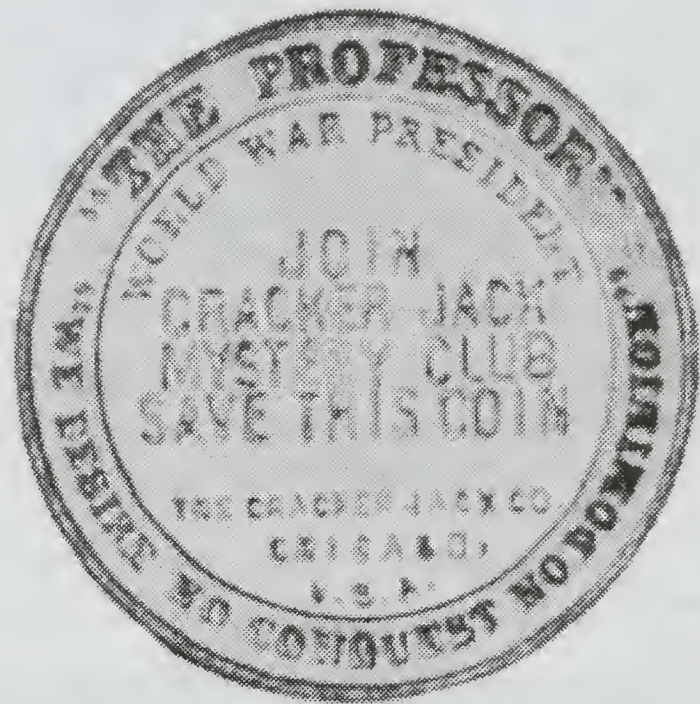
In 1914 Rueckheim Bros. & Eckstein's Brooklyn, NY plant was opened and continued operation until 1923.

In 1916 a little sailor boy named Jack and his black and white dog, Bingo, began to appear on promotional literature. In 1919 he and his dog became the Cracker Jack logo and were placed on the package. Jack and Bingo have changed over the years as the logo was modernized, but they look substantially the same as they did in 1919.

The firm was renamed "The Cracker Jack Co." in 1922 and that same year a prize-purchasing organization, Martin D. Levy & Co., of New York was acquired. Today, a prize committee evaluates prizes according to a formal selection procedure which determines their appropriateness to be placed in the same box with a food product, their safety and their appeal to children.

In 1930 The Cracker Jack Co. built a new plant at 4800 W. 66th Street, its present home.

medals. The set consists of 31 pieces starting with George Washington and ending with Franklin Roosevelt. One medal was issued to cover both terms of Grover Cleveland, our 22nd/24th president.



"Join Cracker Jack Mystery Club
Save This Coin"



Cracker Jack Presidents' Tokens



It was in 1933 that Cracker Jack Company issued a prize of interest to the token collector. Between June of that year and September 1934, they issued 32,341,000 aluminum president



When a child had 3 different president medals, he was eligible to join the Cracker Jack Mystery Club.

He would send in his 3 different president medals and receive 10 new different presidential medals stamped "Cancelled" on the reverse, a display case (the mystery surprise) and a Cracker Jack Mystery Club Certificate. Children could join the Mystery Club as many times as they wanted providing they sent in 3 different, uncanceled president medals.

The goal was to complete a set of canceled president medals and more than 230,000 children joined the Mystery Club over the next four years.

The medals are 25mm. Obverses list the president, dates of office and a bust of the president with his name below.



On the reverse was the president's nickname and one of his notable accomplishments. It is not too difficult to assemble a set of uncanceled medals, but a canceled set comes a little harder.

In addition to Cracker Jack the president medals were also in Checkers, another popcorn confections made by the Shotwell Mfg. Co. in Chicago and Brooklyn. Cracker Jack took them over in the late 1920s.

In 1964 Cracker Jack was acquired by the Borden Company and the product now sells in the U.S. and 53 foreign countries.

No longer made of metal, the prizes delight children as much today as when the president medals were given out.

* * * * *

Columbian Counterfeit Ring Busted

One of biggest Counterfeiting operations in Columbia was recently cracked by a Task Force of 100 Columbian police, assisted by U.S. Secret Service agents. Over a year and a half was spent investigating and trying to locate the money-making factory and they finally discovered it after infiltrating undercover officers into the counterfeiting gang.

In a thick grove of banana trees, the criminals had dug out a 15 x 20 foot underground room in a mountainside of the Andes, lined its walls with cinder-block and hauled in lights and a printing press. These self-trained counterfeiters developed a high level of expertise and produced bogus bills with a great deal of perfection.

When the room was discovered, police saw \$3 million in bogus bills lying in stacks on tables and hanging by clips from a string stretched across the room. A policeman turned on the press, which began spitting out \$100 bills. Possibly more than \$1 billion) of counterfeit U.S. Dollars were cranked out.

The U.S. Embassy estimated that 1/3 of counterfeit money circulating in the U.S. is made in Columbia. Approximately \$22 million Columbian-made counterfeit dollars have been seized in the U.S. since 1985.

(Reference: Wisconsin State Journal)

Brzezinski Brothers

Krakow, Wisconsin

by Mike Tramte #717

Andrew Brzezinski was born in Posen, Poland in 1850. Andrew, his wife, Cecelia, and their 3 children immigrated to the U.S. in 1888. The family settled in Massachusetts for a short period of time, then Buffalo, NY and later in South Bend, IN, where their 4 other children were born.

The Brzezinski family moved to Krakow, Wisconsin in 1901. At that time, the Krakow area was mostly wilderness with a few small farms. Andrew and his family set out clearing 120 acres of land adjoining Gohr Road, which was deeded to Andrew on October 9, 1903 from the J.J. Hof Land Company.

The 1910 census shows Andrew and Cecelia were living on Gohr Road in Krakow with their children Julius, Wencil, Anton and Stella. Their 3 other children, John, Ernest and Walter were not living at the Krakow homestead at that time.

Julius, while employed as a cheesemaker in Krakow in 1914, was asked by a local farmer to sell some chickens for him. Julius ended up selling the chickens in Chicago and after this first successful venture, he was asked by several local farmers to sell other farm products. He then started into business, building a general store with living quarters.

This was the start of the **Brzezinski Bros.**, a partnership between Julius and Wencil. A third brother, Anton, joined the

business in the 1920's with the purchase of the Krakow Lumber and Feed Company Brzezinski Bros. later also owned and operated the Krakow Pickling Company, BB Oil Company, and Krakow Cheese Factory.

In the early 20th century in rural Wisconsin, instead of asking neighbors where they shopped or bought groceries, the question was usually "where do you trade?" The Brzezinski Bros. store was a typical store for trading.

A large barn was located right behind the store where Ernest Brzezinski weighed, haggled prices and then gave the customer cash or tokens to purchase merchandise in the store. Local farmers brought in chickens, ducks, eggs, calves, pigs and an occasional cow or horse for trading.



Interior of store in 1920s (l-e) Ray Brezinski, Julius Brzezinski, Wencil Breczinski and Gen Milewski.

A new general store was built in the 1920's with an addition added in the early 1930's and a second addition in the late 1950's.



Exterior of Brzezinski Bros., Inc. 1926

In the 1930's the store was the first north of Green Bay to have florescent lights.

The Brzezinski brothers ran the store for about 70 years. Over time, the store changed from a general store to a grocery store. The store was affiliated with Clover Farms from 1938 to 1946, which was followed by Red Owl from 1947 to 1960.

The business was incorporated in 1954 as **Brzezinski Bros. Inc.**, with Julius, his 3 sons and daughter and Wencil and his two sons as the stockholders. The store was sold in 1985 and operated by its new owners for a period of years. Today it stands empty in Krakow.

In the late 1920's and early 1930's Wencil Brzezinski also managed a silent movie theater in Krakow. It was located on the 2nd floor of the cheese factory and featured westerns, the most popular movies of the time. Wencil also had the first crystal radio north of Green Bay, which he assembled himself and was able to receive station KDKA, of Pittsburgh.

Walter and Wencil both served in World War I, with Walter in the U.S. Army in France, and Wencil was in the U.S. Army Air Force in Doncaster, England.

Andrew Brzezinski died in September, 1937 following the death of Cecelia in 1936.

The two principal owners of Brzezinski Bros., Julius and Wencil died in 1961 and 1963, respectively.

While In business, the Brzezinski Bros. issued a set of 6 different round aluminum tokens In denominations of 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢ and 50¢ and \$1.00.

The sizes of the tokens are 18mm, 19mm, 21mm, 25mm, 30mm and 35mm, respectively. The obverse and reverse of the tokens are worded "BRZEZINSKI BROS./ (denomination)/ (stars)// IN TRADE/ (denomination)/ PAT.JUN. 1909/ENGLE SYSTEM.



Brzezinski Bros.
\$1 token



Information for the above story and photographs were provided by Gerald Brzezinski, son of Wencil.

Coin Club Information

Please type or print)

Coin Club Name: _____

c/o Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____

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When they meet _____

Time _____

Where _____

Address _____

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Current Officers:

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Secretary _____

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Show Information for _____ Coin Club.

[] We are planning a show. Information will be sent later.

[] No show is currently being planned.

Coin Show Date(s) _____ 200____..

Show Hours: _____

Location (hotel/convention center: _____

Street _____

City/State _____

Number of Dealer Tables _____ Table costs: \$_____

General Show Chairperson (name/address/phone)

Bourse Chairperson (name/address/phone)

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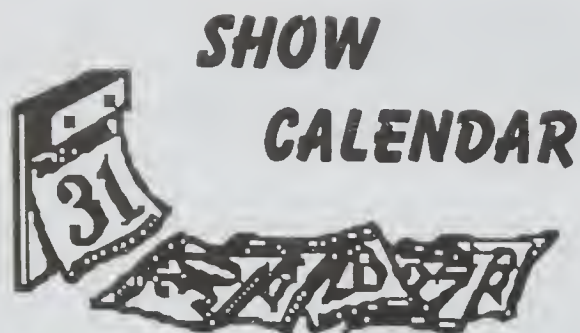
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Please send information on your upcoming coin show to Phyllis Calkins, NOW News Editor, P.O. Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, times, number of tables and your Show/Bourse Chairman's name, address & phone number.

January 4-7, 2001 - Orlando, FL
FUN Show in Orlando, Florida.

February 4, 2001 - Rockford, IL
Rockford Area Coin Club's 89th Semi-Annual Show at Holiday Inn/Hoffman House, 7550 East State St., Rt. Bus 20, Rockford, IL. 50 Tables. Bourse Chm. Larry Kasberger, 2419 Circle Dr., Belvidere, IL 61008. Ph. 815-547-6382.

February 18, 2001 - Oshkosh
Numismatic Research Society's 18th Annual Coin Show at Park Plaza International (former Oshkosh Hilton), 1 North Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Free admission. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

February 25, 2001 - Racine
Racine Numismatic Society's 63rd Annual Coin & Collectible Show at South Hills Country Club, 3047 Highway 94-Frontage Road (east side of I-94 /between Hwy. K & 20), Franksville, WI. 40 Tables. Bourse Chm. Jerome Binsfeld, Box 580191, Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158. Ph. 262-654-6272 (h) or 262-843-2321 (w).

March 8-10, 2001 - ANA
National Money Show at Salt Lake City, UT.

March 18, 2001 - Waukesha
Waukessa Coin Club's 32nd annual show at the Waukesha Elks Lodge, 2301 Springdale Drive, (I-94 Exit Hwy. 18, west to Springdale Road, Waukesha (right on Springdale 2 blocks) Hours: 9-4 p.m. (\$1 adult admission). Contact Forrest Schumacher, Waukesha Coin Club, P.O. Box 1122, Waukesha, WI 53187. Ph. 262-524-3227 (b) or 262-542-3934 (h).

March 25, 2001 - Madison

Madison Coin Club's annual coin show at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolan Drive, Madison, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. General Chm. Kevin Doyle. Bourse Chm. John Foellmi, 5421 Camden Rd., Madison, WI 53716. Ph. 608-221-6670.

March 29-31, 2001 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 37th annual show at Four Point Hotel Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 4747 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: Thurs. 3-8 pm; Friday 10-6 pm; Saturday 10-4 pm. 100 dealers, \$1 donation for patrons over 12. Bourse Chair. Annette Tramte, Ph. 414-541-7028. Show Chm. Walter Weis, Ph. 414-384-7966.

April 1, 2001 - NOW Show CANCELED

~~41st NOW show hosted by Baraboo Coin Club at the Holiday Inn, Wisconsin Dells.~~

April 5-8, 2001 - Central States
Indianapolis, IN (April 5 PNG Day).

April 8, 2001 - Appleton

Fox Valley 46th Annual Spring Coin Show at Holiday Inn, Corner Hwy. 41 & West College Ave., Appleton. Hours: 9-4 pm. 40 tables. Bourse Chm. James Bayer, PO Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912-1981. Ph. 920-739-1089.

April 29, 2001 - Green Bay

Coin & Stamp Show hosted by the Nicolet Coin Club at the Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond St., Green Bay, WI. Hours: 9:00-4:00 p.m. (Dealer set-up 7:30 a.m.). Show Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Ph. 480-985-5230 before April 1, 2001 and 920-499-7035 after April 1st, 2001.

May 6, 2001 - Wausau

Wisconsin Valley Coin Show at Midway Hotel, 2901 Martin Avenue, Wausau. Hours 9-5 pm, 50 tables. Show Chm. Thad Streeter, 5002 Tanya St., Schofield, WI 54476. Ph. 715-355-5437.

May 20, 2001 - ILNA

Illinois Numismatic Assoc. Coin Show hosted by Rockford Area Coin Club at the Holiday Inn/Hoffman House, 7550 East State St., Rockford, IL. 60 tables. Bourse Chm. Larry Kasberger, 2419 Circle Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008. Ph. 815-547-6382.

June 10, 2001 - Rice Lake

Barron County Coin Show at Cedar Mall, 2900 S. Main Street, Rice Lake. Hours: 9-4 p.m. Bourse Chair. Sue Peterson, 119 E. Freeman St., Rice Lake, WI 54868.

August 8-12, 2001 - ANA

World's Fair of Money at Atlanta, GA.

September 13-15, 2001 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's 67th Annual Coin and Collectible Show held at 4 Points Sheraton Hotel, 4747 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee. \$1 admission (under 12 free). Exhibits and 90 dealers. Hours: Thur. 3-8 pm, Fri. 10-6 pm; Sat. 10-5 pm. Bourse Chm. Dave Hunsicker, 248 S. 7th Avenue, West Bend, WI 53095. Ph. 262-338-6064.

September 23, 2001 - Rockford, IL

Rockford Area Coin Club's 9th Semi-Annual Coin Show at Holiday Inn/Hoffman House, 7550 East State St., Rt. Bus 20, Rockford, IL. 50 tables. Bourse Chm. Larry Kasberger, 2419 Circle Drive, Belvidere, IL 61008. Ph. 815-547-6382.

February 17, 2002 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 19th annual coin show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

March 8-10, 2002 - ANA

National Money Show at Jacksonville, FL

April 25-28, 2002 - Central States

Central States Coin Show hosted by Columbus Numismatic Society, Columbus, OH (Apr. 25 PNG Day).

July 31-August 4, 2002 - ANA

World's Fair of Money at New York City, NY.

February 16, 2003 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 20th annual coin show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

March 20-22, 2003 - ANA

Charlotte, NC.

July 30-August 3, 2003 - ANA

World's Fair of Money at Baltimore, MD.

February 15, 2004 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 21st annual coin show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

March 25-27, 2004 - ANA

National Money Show at Portland, OR.

July 28-August 1, 2004 - ANA

Denver, Colorado.

February 20, 2005 - Oshkosh

Numismatic Research Society's 22nd annual show. Contact Numismatic Research Society, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

August 3-7, 2005 - ANA

World's Fair of Money at Pittsburg, PA.

August 2-6, 2006 - ANA

World's Fair of Money at Milwaukee, WI.



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